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Office of Shared Accountability
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

October 25, 2018

MEMORANDUM

To: High School Principals
From: Janet S. Wilson, Associate Superintendent
Subject: SAT Participation and Performance for the Class of 2018

This memorandum is to inform you that SAT results were released by the College Board today, October 25, 2018. Participation and performance for the 2018 graduates in the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) on the redesigned SAT are included in this memorandum. Last year, the SAT results for 2017 graduates establishes a new baseline. College and Career Readiness (CCR) Benchmark performance, as defined by the College Board, as well as the trend from 2017 to 2018 also are included in this memorandum. SAT participation and performance for the state of Maryland and the nation are not reported as the data were not available at the time of publication.

SAT Participation and Performance

SAT Participation

The SAT participation rate for MCPS graduates in the Class of 2018 was 65.7 percent, a notable 12.7 percentage-point increase from 2017 to 2018 (Figure 1).

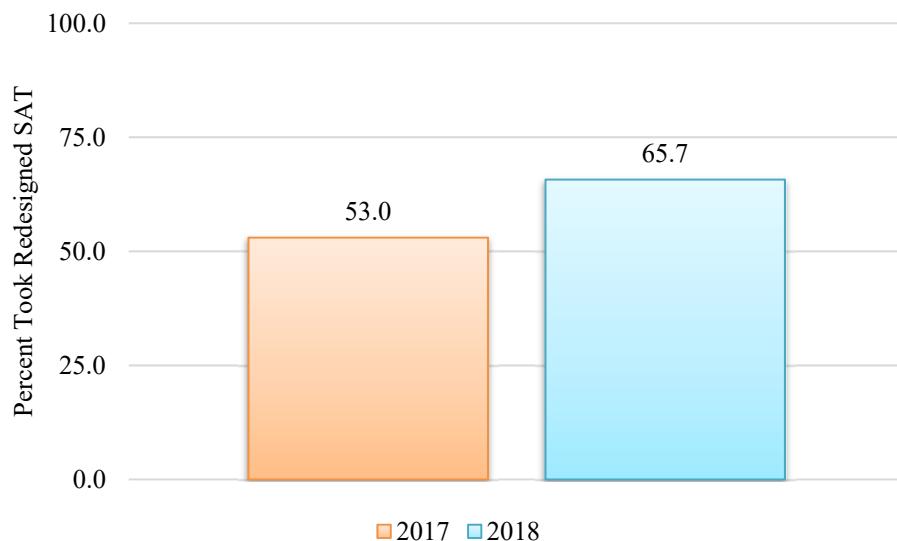


Figure 1. SAT Participation Rates for the MCPS Classes of 2017–2018

Of all the 2018 graduates who took the SAT, the majority were White or Black or African American, 32.7 and 23.7 percent, respectively (Figure 2). From 2017 to 2018, the proportion of MCPS Asian graduates and those identified as Two or More Races displayed an increase among all SAT test takers, while the proportion of Black or African American, Hispanic/Latino, and White graduates saw a decrease.

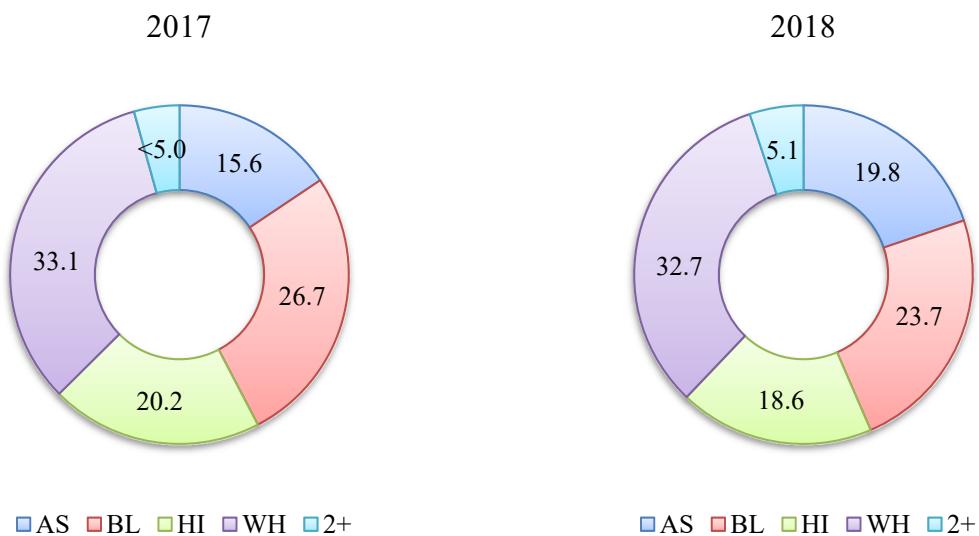


Figure 2. Percentage of SAT Test Takers in the MCPS Classes of 2017–2018 by Race/Ethnicity

Note. AS=Asian, BL=Black or African American, HI=Hispanic/Latino, WH=White, 2+=Two or More Races.

SAT Performance

Evidenced-based Reading and Writing (ERW) and Math are the two section tests offered to measure students' knowledge and skills on the new SAT. Each section score ranges from 200 to 800 and the total score of the two sections ranges from 400 to 1600. The average SAT total scores for the MCPS Class of 2018 was 1167 (Figure 3). A notable increase by 41 points in the average SAT total score was observed between 2017 and 2018 for MCPS.

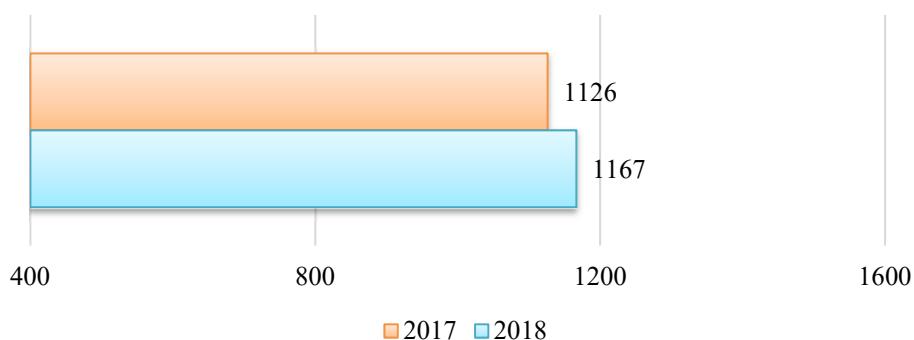


Figure 3. Average SAT Total Score for the MCPS Classes of 2017–2018

All racial/ethnic groups saw an increase in SAT total score from 2017 to 2018; with the largest gains observed for Asian graduates (74 points higher). The average SAT total score in 2018 was 1280 points for Asian graduates, 1253 for White graduates, and 1230 for graduates identified as Two or More Races. For Black or African American and Hispanic/Latino graduates, the average SAT total scores were 1035 and 1044, respectively (Figure 4).

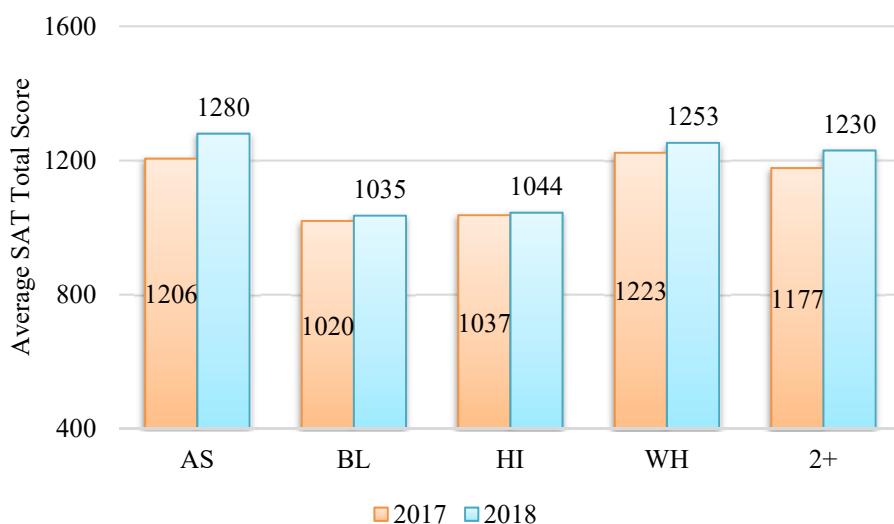


Figure 4. Average SAT Total Score for the MCPS Classes of 2017–2018 by Race/Ethnicity

Note. AS=Asian, BL=Black or African American, HI=Hispanic/Latino, WH=White, 2+=Two or More Races.

College and Career Readiness Benchmark for SAT

The College Board sets benchmarks for SAT ERW (480) and Math (530) to estimate CCR. The SAT ERW benchmark indicates that a student has a 75 percent chance of earning a C or higher in first-semester, credit-bearing, college-level courses in history, literature, social science, or writing. Likewise, the SAT Math benchmark signifies the readiness for college courses of algebra, statistics, precalculus, or calculus. Students are deemed likely ready to take or succeed in entry-level and credit-bearing college courses when they meet both benchmarks established by the College Board. Of all test takers who took the SAT and graduated from MCPS, 63.7 percent met both ERW and Math benchmarks, 5.0 percentage points higher than the Class of 2017 (Figure 5).

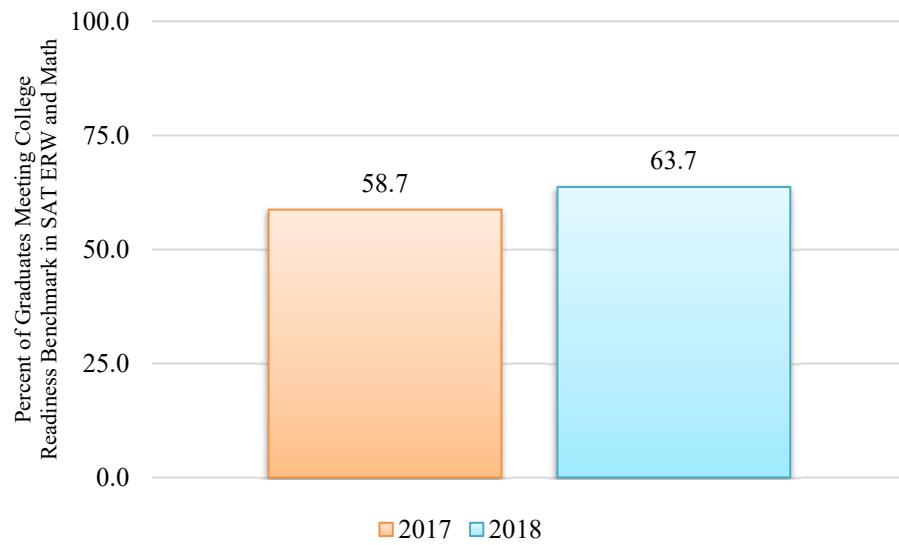


Figure 5. Percentage of SAT Test Takers Meeting College and Career Readiness Benchmark for the MCPS Classes of 2017–2018

The rate of graduates meeting both SAT ERW and Math CCR benchmarks varied by racial/ethnic groups. The rates for Asian, White, and Two or More Races graduates were higher than 75.0 percent, while the rates for Black or African American and Hispanic/Latino graduates were less than 40.0 percent (Figure 6). The percentage of meeting both SAT ERW and Math CCR benchmarks increased for most of racial/ethnic groups in MCPS, while the rate for Hispanic/Latino graduates remained steady from 2017 to 2018.

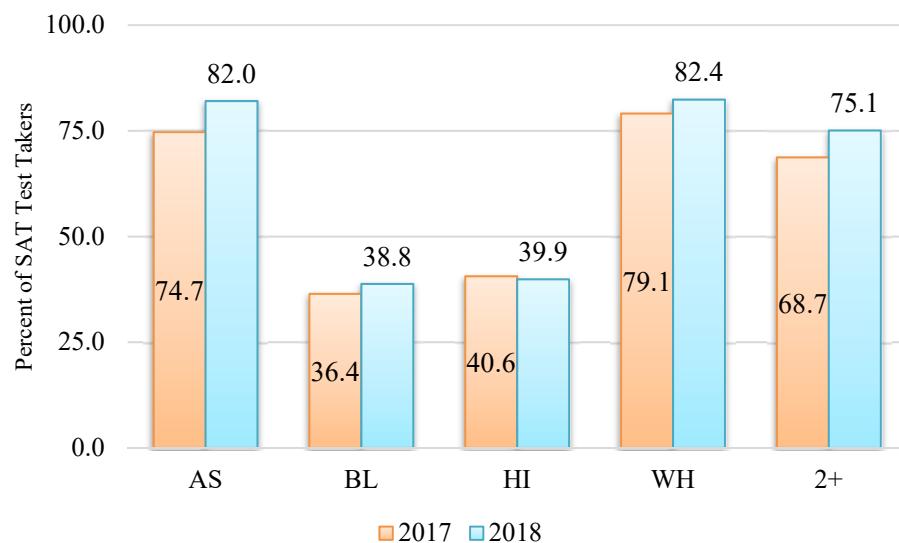


Figure 6. Percentage of SAT Test Takers Meeting College and Career Readiness Benchmark for the MCPS Classes of 2017–2018 by Race/Ethnicity

Note. AS=Asian, BL=Black or African American, HI=Hispanic/Latino, WH=White, 2+=Two or More Races.

More detailed information on SAT participation and performance can be accessed on the MCPS Data Dashboards via the following links.

- [SAT Participation](#)
- [SAT Performance](#)

If you have any questions about SAT participation and performance data, please contact Dr. Kecia L. Addison, supervisor, Applied Research Unit, Office of Shared Accountability, at 240-740-2930.

JRS:JSW:sl

Copy to:

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Approved: _____
Henry R. Johnson, Jr., Chief of Staff